

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 CPR-01

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 NSCE-00 USIE-00 EA-10 /046 R

DRAFTED BY IO:FJOBLACHLY:TL

APPROVED BY IO - WILLIAM B. BUFFUM

S - LEAGLEBERGER

S/S - REWOODS

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O 252352Z NOV 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 260089

TOSEC 461

E.O. 11652:

TAGS:

SUBJECT: DEATH OF U THANT

1. U THANT DIED THIS AFTERNOON. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN
ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

2. "WE ARE SADDENED BY THE DEATH OF U THANT, A DISTINGUISHED
SERVANT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. HE TOOK OVER THE
JOB AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN TRAGIC
CIRCUMSTANCES FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF DAG HAMMARSKJOLD.
U THANT SAW THE UNITED NATIONS THROUGH SOME OF ITS MOST
DIFFICULT YEARS, YET HE WAS NEVER DISCOURAGED. HE DEVOTED
HIMSELF WHOLLY TO THE CAUSE OF WORLD PEACE. PEACE WAS HIS
PASSION. HE WAS TIRELESS IN THE SEARCH FOR ACCORD AMONG
NATIONS AND NEVER SPARED HIMSELF IN THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY
GENERAL. IN THE NOBLEST SENSE OF THE WORD HE WAS AN
IMPARTIAL SERVANT OF THE WORLD.

3. WE SEND OUR CONDOLENCES TO HIS FAMILY. THE WORLD HAS
LOST A GREAT LEADER."

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4. SHOULD YOU WISH TO SEND A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO MRS. THANT,
THE FOLLOWING DRAFT IS FOR YOUR APPROVAL.

5. "DEAR MRS. THANT: YOUR SENSE OF LOSS AT THIS SAD TIME
IS SHARED BY EVERYONE WHO EVER MET YOUR HUSBAND AND BY
MILLIONS MORE WHO KNEW OF HIS WORK FOR PEACE AMONG NATIONS.

DESPITE SETBACKS, HIS VISION NEVER BLURRED AND HIS HEART
NEVER FALTERED IN HIS GREAT WORK. THE WORLD OWES A SPECIAL
KIND OF DEBT TO THE SPECIAL KINDS OF TALENTS U THANT BROUGHT
TO THE SERVICE OF MANKIND, ESPECIALLY IN HIS WORK AS
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

5. "TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY I SEND MY DEEPEST CONDOLENCES.
SINCERELY, HENRY A. KISSINGER." INGERSOLL

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